

Message Text

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TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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TAGS: XT, EEC

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT ON US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS

AT AUGUST 29 WHITE HOUSE NEWS CONFERENCE (4:35 PM WASHINGTON TIME) WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN JOHN HUSHEN MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT REGARDING FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING'S AUGUST 27 RADIO-TV SPEECH IN WHICH GISCARD SAID HE WAS STRUCK BY THE FAILURE OF EITHER OUTGOING OR INCOMING PRESIDENT TO MENTION THE WORD EUROPE IN THEIR SPEECHES MARKING CHANGEOVER FROM THE NIXON TO FORD ADMINISTRATION.

BEGIN TEXT:

I AM AUTHORIZED TO SAY THAT WE APPLAUD EFFORTS TOWARD EUROPEAN UNITY AND WE WELCOME VIGOROUS EUROPEAN POLICIES IN THE SPIRIT OF THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION SIGNED IN JUNE AT THE SUMMIT IN BRUSSELS. LET ME POINT OUT THE FACTS RELATING TO THE COMMENTS OF THE FRENCH PRESIDENT.

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-- PRESIDENT FORD MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL OF
THE NATO COUNTRIES WITHIN TWO HOURS OF HIS SWEARING IN. THE
PRESIDENT WROTE PERSONAL MESSAGES TO ALL OF THE ALLIED
LEADERS THE SAME DAY.

-- THE PRESIDENT MET INDIVIDUALLY WITH ALLIED
AMBASSADORS, INCLUDING THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR LAST SATURDAY.
-- AND, FINALLY, THE PRESIDENT IS PLANNING PERSONAL
MEETINGS WITH ALLIED LEADERS AS SOON AS MUTUALLY
CONVENIENT.

OUR RECORD OF COMMITMENT TO OUR ALLIANCE AND TO EUROPE
IS CLEAR. THE PRESIDENT LOOKS FORWARD TO A PRODUCTIVE AND
COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH FRANCE AND OUR OTHER FRIENDS
IN EUROPE AS WELL AS WITH THE EXISTING AND EMERGING
INSTITUTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY BUT THIS REQUIRES
RECIPROCITY ON THE PART OF OUR PARTNERS.

----- END TEXT KISSINGER

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